

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 SOFIA 01370 241215Z

ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO USDOC WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3140

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

UNCLAS SOFIA 1370

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, BU

SUBJECT: CHEMICAL PROCESSING EQUIPMENT TSS

REF: USDOC 08273

1. EMBOFF MET JUNE 23 WITH DANCHO DIMITROV, CHIEF SPECIALIST, AND KUNKA PANCHEVA, CHIEF ENGINEER, OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICAL INDUSTRY TO DISCUSS PROPOSED TSS IN CHEMICAL PROCESSING EQUIPMENT. OFFICIALS STATED THERE WOULD BE LESS INTEREST IN TURNKEY PROJECTS DUE TO CURRENT STAGE OF PLANNING CYCLE (I.E., 5YP WILL BE ENTERING THIRD YEAR AND CURRENT PROJECTS ARE BEING CONCLUDED; OVER NEXT TWO YEARS NEW PROJECTS FOR NEXT 5YP WILL BE DEVELOPED.)

2. READING FROM HANDWRITTEN NOTES OBVIOUSLY PREPARED BY SEVERAL SOURCES, DIMITROV GAVE FOLLOWING AS AREAS OF MAJOR INTEREST TO BULGARIANS:

A) OIL REFINING -- PROCESSING CRUDE INTO LIGHT PRODUCTS; HYDRO-CRACKING AND CATALYTIC CRACKING; DESULFURIZATION AND HYDRO-DESULFURIZATION; RATIONAL USAGE OF GAS WASTE BYPRODUCTS OF OIL REFINING AND PROCESSING.

UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 SOFIA 01370 241215Z

B) PETROCHEMICALS -- EQUIPMENT AND PROCESSES FOR PRODUCTION OF POLYPROPYLENE OXIDES (NOT BY CHLORINE MEHGH); POLYPROPYLENE, POLYETHYLENE, HIGH DENSITY POLYPROPYLENE AND POLYACRYLIC FIBRES; POLYMETHYLCRYLATES (FOR PRODUCTION OF PLEXIGLASS AND AUTO WINDSHIELDS); POLYURETHANE (MDI AND TDI); POLYESTER AND POLYETHER ALCOHOL; AND ADDITIVES USED IN PRODUCTION AND PROCESSING OF

POLYURETHANES.

C) INORGANIC CHEMISTRY -- PROCESSING OF HEAVY SODA ASH;  
PRODUCTION OF AMMONIA AND UREA.

D) PACKAGING AND PACKAGING MATERIALS -- PLASTICS, CELLULOSE,  
AND COMBINED MATERIAL FOR PACKING DETERGENTS, FOOD PRODUCTS  
AND LIQUIDS AND ASSOCIATED PACKAGING AND FILLING EQUIPMENT;  
PLASTICS PROCESSING EQUIPMENT; PRODUCTION OF PLASTICS AND  
RUBBER ADDITIVES, ESPECIALLY ANTI-CORROSION ADDITIVES.

E) POLLUTION CONTROL DEVICES -- ALL RANGES INCLUDING WASTE  
WATER AND WASTE MATERIAL. (DIMITROV MENTIONED THIS AS A  
NEW AREA FOR BULGARIA, BUT ONE IN WHICH THERE IS GROWING  
INTEREST.)

3. DIMITROV INDICATED PARTICULAR INTEREST IN OIL REFINING AND  
POLLUTION CONTROL DEVICES. (COMMENT: LATTER MIGHT BE MORE  
APPROPRIATE AS SEPARATE TSS SUBJECT. END COMMENT.)

4. CHEMICAL INDUSTRY, OF COURSE, IS HIGH PRIORITY SECTOR  
DURING CURRENT 5YP. HOWEVER, LAST YEARS' RESULTS WERE NOT SO  
GOOD. PLANNED GROWTH IN THIS SECTOR WAS TO BE 13.4 PER CENT  
BUT ONLY 5.3 PER CENT WAS REALIZED. THERE SHOULD THUS BE  
GOOD INTEREST IN THIS TSS.

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PAGE 03 SOFIA 01370 241215Z

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